

REMARKS

The Action objected to the Title as being non-descriptive. Applicants have adopted the suggestion of the Examiner by amendment.

The Action noted the absence of an Abstract. However, the application includes an Abstract which is printed upon the first page of the document (WO 01/25681) (at two-letter code 57). While this should comply with the requirement for an Abstract, Applicants supply the following Abstract if this is not sufficient:

Please insert the following Abstract: --An elongated lighting system that is modular, being of discreet length having a plurality of LEDs on an elongated support. The system has LEDs connected to a pair of electrical conductors having a length equal to, or less than the discreet length of the elongated lighting system. The elongated lighting system is moulded and embedded into transparent, opaque, semi-transparent, or mixed transparent and opaque plastic module connected to an electrical source.--

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). According to the Action, elements of claims 27, 28 and 30 (Applicants believe this should be claim 31) were not shown in the drawings. These claims have been canceled. Thus, no drawing corrections are needed. Accordingly, this objection should be removed.

Claim 31 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. This claim has been canceled. Accordingly, this objection should be removed.

Claims 1-5 and 7-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,113,248 to Mistopoulos et al. ("Mistopoulos"). Mistopoulos shows a process for forming a lighting device by an extrusion process. It must be noted that any device formed by this process has an important weakness. Namely, that to form lighting units, the extruded product must be cut or otherwise separated into separate lighting units. As a result of this process the ends of each unit includes exposed bus members, supports or any longitudinal elements of the unit and therefore moisture and other degradants may enter into the interior of the lighting unit, potentially damaging the unit and shortening its lifespan.

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The present invention avoids this problem by virtue of an injection molding process which fully encloses the internal elements of each lighting module, namely the support element, the lighting elements and any conductors. This feature is incorporated into amended Claim 1. Since Mistopoulos does not teach or suggest this feature, it cannot anticipate Claim 1 or Claims 2-8, 10-19 and 29 which depend from Claim 1.

Claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,222,799 to Sears et al. ("Sears"). This claim has been canceled and therefore, this rejection is moot.

Claims 6 and 29 were rejected under U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,113,248 to Mistopoulos et al. ("Mistopoulos"). As distinguished above, Mistopoulos does not teach or suggest all of the subject matter of Claim 1, from which Claims 6 and 29 depend. Therefore, Claims 6 and 29 should be allowed.

Claim 30 remains pending in the application and was indicated as being allowed by the Examiner.

New Claims 32-46 have been added. These claims include patentable subject matter fully supported in the present specification and drawings. Applicants request reconsideration of the pending claims 1-8, 10-14, 17-19, 29, 30 and 32-46 and issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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